

Dear Sirs/Madams,

This is in reply to the Notice of Inquiry # 03-104I

I am opposed to allowing Broadband over Power Lines (BPL) under the existing Part 15 regulations. Future changes to part 15 that accommodate BPL, to the detriment of the Amateur Radio Service as well as other licensed services, must also be avoided.

BPL radiation from power lines, which cannot be contained, will seriously hinder the Amateur Radio community and other licensed services that use the HF spectrum and will add extreme technical difficulties for our Amateur Radio Emergency Service. Further, interference to Amateur Radio Emergency Services will place the public at risk in times of disaster and communications emergencies, including SKYWARN severe weather spotting activities that I participate in. Routine and daily use of Amateur Radio by definition is practice for any type of emergency, including severe weather. Amateur Radio Operators have made sizeable investments of time and money for licensing and equipment whose performance will be severely degraded or rendered useless if BPL is allowed to go forward.

It is of extreme importance that interference from BPL, verified by well-known, published, test results in this country and others are undertaken before any wide scale, commercial development of the technology is begun. Other countries and NGO's here and abroad have found this BPL scheme flawed. This scheme will render a major portion of the HF spectrum unusable to conventional forms of communications.

Stringent enforcement of Part 15 regulations, as they stand, prohibits the commercial implementation of BPL systems. An amendment of Part 15 that would allow BPL would also open the door to the manufacture of all-manner of devices with unacceptable unintentional radiation characteristics further compounding spectral interference to the detriment of the public-good.

I respectfully submit these comments for your consideration,

Pete Womack
Amateur Radio Station KF4VCC
NOAA/NWS SKYWARN Station Operator